Selection criteria

Purpose of Pilot Activities

The UN-REDD programme in Indonesia aims to develop a REDD national implementation system, which is to be tested at provincial level. With this pilot phase the implementing partners will test and demonstrate various aspects of the UN-REDD programme in order to prepare them for implementation on a larger national scale.

The aspects of UN-REDD that need to be tested on a provincial level are included in outcome 2: **Successful demonstration of establishing a REL, MRV and fair payment systems based on the national REDD architecture.** This outcome will include analytical work and institutional capacity building on a number of key elements for REDD implementation in Indonesia.

Output 2.1:   Improved capacity and methodology design for forest carbon inventory within a Measurement, Reporting and Verification System (MRV), including sub-national pilot implementation

Output 2.2:   Reference Emissions Level (REL)

Output 2.3:   Harmonized fair and equitable payment mechanism at provincial level

Output 2.4:   Toolkit for priority setting towards maximizing potential Carbon-benefits and incorporating co-benefits, such as biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation under MDG

In addition to the pilot province selection, at a later stage a pilot district has to be selected within the province for the implementation of the activities under outcome 3: **Capacity established to implement REDD at decentralized levels.** This outcome particularly requires the involvement of local communities and local government.

Output 3.1:   Capacity for spatial socio-economic planning incorporating REDD at the district level

Output 3.2:   Empowered local stakeholders are able to benefit from REDD

Output 3.3:   Multi-stakeholder-endorsed District plans for REDD implementation

Final selection

With the National Joint Programme document signed and the National Inception Workshop approaching, the pilot province has to be selected now from the three candidates. In order to facilitate the selection process we propose a set of criteria for this final selection.

Governance

The UN-REDD programme ultimately aims to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, although the Quick Start phase of the programme (the current phase) is not seeking to reduce emissions, but to build capacity and to learn lessons about how to establish conditions to reduce emissions. To be successful in this the programme requires government support. In the pilot province, government support is required to facilitate the active involvement of government administration and line agencies, at district and provincial level.

Criteria:
- Strong commitment from provincial and district governments and support from the governor, as proven by track record of endorsement of and active participation in related projects and programmes.
- "Good" (fair and equitable) governance ratings
- Have developed or in the process of finalizing designated forest zone map in the provincial spatial planning (RTRWP) based on input from district spatial plan (RTRWK).
- Having adequate areas of at least the following forest status classes: Production Forest (HPH, HPT), Conversion Forest (HPK), Protection Forest (HL) and Conservation Forests

<u>Physical environment</u>
The UN-REDD programme will demonstrate the MRV methodology on a provincial level. This involves measuring of carbon in the project area. In this respect it is important to realize that with a larger area of forest cover, more time and resources will have to be used to do the work. The same is true for the distribution of forest. If the forest is fragmented into many isolated patches, it will take more time and resources to do the same work.

At the same time it is desired to have some heterogeneous conditions in order to test and demonstrate the activities in different circumstances, as recommended by IFCA. These two conflicting interests have to be balanced in the decision on a pilot province.

Reducing deforestation is an important target of the UN-REDD programme. Therefore the programme aims to successfully address the drivers of deforestation. For demonstration purposes, a large diversity of drivers of deforestation would make the project more complex and thus more difficult to succeed. On the other hand, some diversity in drivers is representative for Indonesia as a whole and would pose valuable testing.

Thus important criteria are:
- Forest cover:
  - Area (area should not be excessive, but the forest should also not be homogeneous)
  - Fragmentation (high levels of fragmentation reduce cost effectiveness)
  - Rate of deforestation relative to remaining forest area.
- Drivers of deforestation: powerful drivers imply powerful stakeholders, increasing the potential for conflict; therefore, for the Quick Start phase, simpler and fewer drivers will facilitate implementation

<u>Institutional capacity</u>
For much of the technical work for MRV and REL, the UN-REDD programme depends on local institutions for their labor and local knowledge. For work on capacity building for spatial socio-economic planning (output 3.1) and empowering local communities (output 3.2) local institutions will be tapped for their experience. The presence of such knowledge and the experience with previous projects related to some of the REDD issues are therefore very valuable.

Criteria are:
- Capability in forest inventories (presence of forest inventory agency or research institute)
- Existing data/information on forest area, carbon densities, allometric equations, or similar
- Existing initiatives for strengthening land/forest management, including community-based management.
- Capability of district (*Kota*/*Kabupaten)* government in spatial planning covering (i) regulatory and supervision; (ii) planning; and (iii) partnership in planning between *Kabupaten*/*Kota.*

<u>Social</u>
The pilot will demonstrate, among other things, the development of a harmonized, fair and equitable payment mechanism at provincial level. The development of a payment distribution mechanism requires that all stakeholders (communities, CSOs, private sector, local government) involved in managing the forest will be involved in such a way that a harmonious, fair and equitable mechanism will be developed and jointly agreed upon.

All activities to be implemented locally require the Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of the local communities. This means that especially for the activities under outcome 3 at a district level the communities have to provide their consent. A large number of communities would require more resources to secure their consent than a small number of communities. If these communities are already organised in some way this would facilitate the process of consultation.

Activities in the communities can be jeopardised by security issues. It is therefore important that security in the area where activities take place can reasonably be expected to remain good throughout the pilot period.

Criteria:

- Local communities: relatively low in number per district (large number of communities require more time and resources)
- Existing forest management programs with local and national NGOs, CSO/IP institutional structures, and local government
- Relatively simple (homogeneous) social situation – i.e., limited number of different ethnic groups, limited number of rural livelihoods, few *transmigrasi* areas, etc.
- Comparatively little ongoing/potential conflict, either between local communities or with other organizations such as private companies and government institutions
- The existence of informal or formal organizational structures which can facilitate the consultation of local communities

(Co)-benefits (output 2.4)

Output 2.4 focuses on factors such as maximizing potential carbon gains, water supply & watershed protection, poverty alleviation, as well as selecting biodiversity hotspots and/or sites with higher than average poverty levels. These should be important considerations in site selection for REDD, not least to build a better business case for upscaling of REDD investments nationally.

Criteria:
- maximizing potential carbon gains,
- water supply & watershed protection,
- poverty alleviation
- biodiversity

Logistics

From a practical point of view it is easier to work in a province that has a good physical infrastructure for traveling as well as a good connection with Jakarta. This would facilitate the movement of programme staff both within the province as well as to the province from Jakarta.

Criteria:
- Travel opportunities/time within the province
- Travel opportunities to and from Jakarta